

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application of: HUNTER, et al.

For: AUTOMATED HIGH-THROUGHOUT SEED SAMPLE PROCESSING SYSTEM AND
METHOD

the specification of which is being transmitted herewith.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

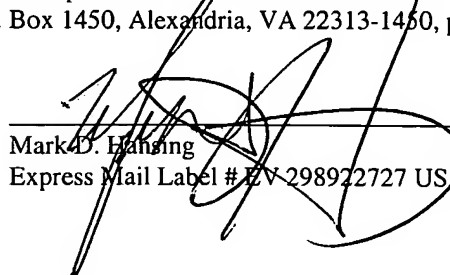
Attached are Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) listing the relevant art known to the applicant herein. The Examiner is requested to consider the references and make them of record. This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No. 09/776,403, filed on February 2, 2001. These references were submitted to, and/or cited by, the Patent Office in the prior application(s) and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application.

Applicants discloses herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose. Legible copies of all items listed in Forms

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" addressed to: Box NEW APP - FEE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, prior to 5:00 p.m. on the 12 day of December, 2003.

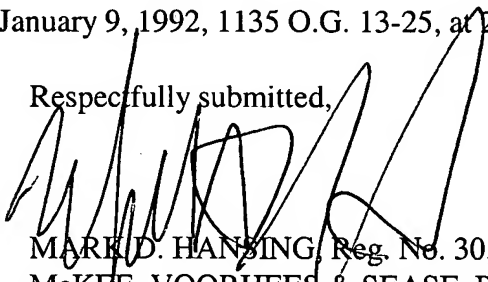

Mark D. Hanson
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PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement, except those identified above.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorneys of Record

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <h2 style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;"><i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>		<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Complete if Known</h3> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Hunter, et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>3643</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Copier, Floris C.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>P04419US01</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number		Filing Date		First Named Inventor	Hunter, et al.	Art Unit	3643	Examiner Name	Copier, Floris C.	Attorney Docket Number	P04419US01
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Sheet	1	of	1												

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US- 6,230,419	5-15-01	Hunter	
	2	US- 6,085,443	7-11-00	Hunter	
	3	US- 5,991,025	11-23-99	Wright	
	4	US- 5,986,230	11/1999	Novak et al.	
	5	US- 5,979,252	11-9-99	Precetti	
	6	US- 5,893,218	4-13-99	Hunter	
	7	US- 5,813,542	09/1998	Cohn	
	8	US- 5,669,511	09/1997	Satake et al	
	9	US- 3,682,303	08/1972	Feterl	
	10	US- 5,75,1421	5-12-98	Wright	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

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